

CHURCH OF GOD

Evangel



March 3, 1958

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.



The Mute Minister

page 4

Compiled and edited by

Charles W. Conn



Editorial

Charles W. Conn

The World Was Not Worthy

- Are We? -

I HAVE JUST COMPLETED a most wonderful and delightful task. I might add that it was a dangerous task. It started out on a simple and small scale, but it was soon evident that the project was too potentially significant to be done hurriedly or casually; so I took time, practically all of my spare time for months and months and months, about eighteen of them, in fact. Now the task is finished, and I want to tell you about it.

I have lived for a while in a day not my own; I have watched the spread of the Pentecostal revival; I have met friends whom I never before had met; I have fallen in love anew with my spiritual forefathers. All this has been done as I have gone through forty-eight years of the *Church of God Evangel*, year by year, month by month, week by week, page by page, column by column and line by line.

This was dangerous business, for I was tempted to love those days too much, to live too much in the past, which must never be done. However, we can take courage from the past, we can learn from it and be true to it.

My project was the compilation and editing of the book that is announced on another page—*The Evangel Reader*. Among all papers printed today, the *Evangel* reaches deeper into the heart of the Pentecostal movement than any other. It reaches almost all the way back to the very fountainhead of the movement. It goes back without interruption to 1910, when this Pentecostal revival was sweeping over the world. Its pages have captured the picture of this movement; it has preserved the heart and the form and the breath of a living faith. And now I have lived back there with those sturdy old pioneers, and I saw and felt and gave thanks to God.

I give thanks to God that our background is one of holiness and Pentecostal power. There are no lords or nobles in our background. Our church ancestors were not the gentry or the aristocracy—they were plain, humble, sincere children of God. They were holiness people. They believed it, preached it, talked it, practiced it, so much that some of them gave their lives for it. All of them gave their lives to it. No

prissy, watered-down, mealymouthed, shamefaced, holiness-denying preaching of our day is worthy to stand in the shoes of these people. My prayer is that I might be worthy of them. I am not ashamed that they were rough, unpolished, uneducated and utterly plain, for beneath that there was holiness and faith and power and love. My concern is whether or not they would be ashamed of me. They should be if with our "polish" and "education" and "refinement" we have forgotten to be holy, or to pray and to fast and believe. We need conviction today, with strength enough to stand on our two legs and declare it.

Saints of God have walked upon the earth during this Pentecostal outpouring and the world knew it not. They did not know it because their own prejudice blinded their eyes and their own reviling drowned the truth from their ears. Those humble folk often dressed in homespun because they had no silk; they often walked because they had no way to ride; they often fasted because they had no food. But they had conviction and faith and purpose that was to them better than silk and comfort and food. Let us never forget this; unless we have it, too, they were far richer than we are, with all our silk and cars and houses and laden tables.

I love those early Pentecostal saints, some of whom died before I was born. Names that are little known today, L. Howard Juillerat, J. W. Buckalew, T. L. McLain, Flora E. Bower, R. M. Evans, F. J. Lee, J. B. Ellis and a host of others lived and suffered and died that we might be where we are today. The world was not worthy of them. They were despised and rejected, they were shot, they were whipped, they were stoned, they were imprisoned, they were cursed, they were hauled into court, they were slandered and maligned, grocers refused to sell them food, and at least two were killed.

They were guilty of one crime; they believed in holiness.

Because they lived we are in a better day. If our day is better than theirs, then let us beware lest our lives be worse than theirs. If our possessions are more than theirs, then let us beware lest our devotion to God be less than theirs. Must we suffer as they did in order to have the consecration they had? Will we pray only in an hour of trouble? Will we fast only when there is nothing to eat? Will we trust God only when we can no longer trust the arm of flesh?

(Continued on page 10)

The Mute Minister

ALTHOUGH NO STENTORIAN voice has been raised in oratorical verbalization, this minister — the *Church of God Evangel* — has for forty-eight years eloquently told the story of Christ and His love. It has brought messages of consolation and comfort to weary and burdened souls and messages of healing to the sick and suffering. On your forty-eighth anniversary I offer heartiest congratulations for all your past accomplishments, and if Jesus tarries, may your next forty-eight years be more productive.

I deeply appreciate the *Evangel* and heartily recommend it as reading material for every minister and member of the Church of God. I would suggest that you get your friends to subscribe to the *Evangel* and I would urge you to recommend its reading in homes throughout America.

I have six reasons I would like to give for being a subscriber to the *Church of God Evangel*:

First, it is the official medium of communication. In it are made announcements of international importance to all members of the Church of God. News of vast import to all people are disseminated through the pages of the *Evangel*. Official declarations given by the leaders of our Church are made through its pages. Every week it declares our doctrinal position, for on its masthead is carried our "Declaration of Faith" which tells the world of the belief and faith of the Church of God.

Second, the *Evangel* contains worth-while gospel messages which are good for both saint and sinner, for those who are following the Lord and for those who know not our blessed Lord and Master. Such messages are chosen with care and are given to the readers of the *Evangel*. Many persons have been converted through the reading of the *Church of God Evangel*; some of our preachers today were saved through reading the *Church of God Evangel*.

Third, in our *Evangel* are carried reports of glorious victories in revivals at home and abroad. It always thrills our hearts to hear of glowing victories over Satan and of souls that have been released from bondage and brought into the glorious liberty of the Lord. I joy in reading these reports of the many victories that are won.

Fourth, the *Evangel* carries testimonies of marvelous healings by the divine power of God. This has been one of the outstanding things that has been carried in our *Evangel* through its years. Several years ago while taking subscriptions for the *Church of God Evangel* in a church I pastored, one of our members

asked the privilege to say a word in behalf of the *Evangel*. She stated that often she had read in the Scriptures where Jesus said, "Greater works than these shall ye do," and she wondered about those greater works. Were they actually being accomplished? After consideration, she realized she had read more marvelous healings since she had been a reader of the *Church of God Evangel* than were recorded in the Word of God. Thank God for these testimonies of divine healing!

Fifth, the editorial qualities of the *Evangel* are meritorious. It is a paper we are not ashamed to offer to anyone anytime to read. The quality of the material that is used in our *Evangel* is such that will bless everyone and written in such a way that none need be ashamed of its presentation.

Sixth, the subscription price of the *Evangel* is a bargain in religious publications. You can get the *Evangel* for \$2.00 a year, and it is a bargain at such a price. I recently was looking over an old letter of my father's. In 1922 my father sent \$2.00 in for a subscription to the *Evangel*. At that time it was a four-page newspaper-type magazine, but it was a welcome visitor in our home. In that same letter my father stated that he had often borrowed money to subscribe for the *Church of God Evangel*. The *Evangel* today is a bargain at the price for which we receive it.

I would not like to be without the *Church of God Evangel*. I have had it as my reading companion for these many years. My early childhood memories are closely associated with the *Church of God Evangel* in our home. When I founded my own home after our marriage, the *Church of God Evangel* was a visitor in our home and has been all of these years. I am happy that it is still a visitor in our home, and I heartily recommend it to you.

Again, may I say to the *Church of God Evangel* on her forty-eighth anniversary, may her messages long be heralded over the land and over the sea. May she continue to be a blessing to the many hearts throughout this world.

By James A. Cross
Assistant General Overseer



"I Like This ..."

*Three Church Leaders
Discuss What They Think
of the "Evangel"*

"It is a refreshing thing to know what is going on elsewhere in the nation."



Diffie

goal. I feel that extending the space of this feature to include reports on other departments of the Church, such as Y. P. E. and Sunday School accomplishments, methods used, results obtained, etc., would be of great value to us all. I should like to add that I enjoy the Readers' Query, and the featuring of various departments of the Church. I appreciate the *Evangel* more each week.

—Hurschel L. Diffie
Pastor, Phoenix, Arizona

I enjoy the reports of the Church activities. It is a refreshing thing to know what is going on elsewhere in the nation. Since I know many of the ministers and churches across the country, it is of great interest to me to know what they are doing. Sometimes, in the reports, are recorded accomplishments by certain churches or groups, and the methods used; this can be of value to many others, without their having to go through the "trial and error process" to find a way of accomplishing the same

"I appreciate, most of all, the reports of Church activities."



Johnson

It is really hard to confine this to one particular subject, since I especially enjoy all of the features of the *Evangel*. I think I would have to be perfectly frank, however, to say that I do appreciate most of all the reports of Church activities. My father and mother joined the Church of God when I was only four and one-half years of age. I have grown up to know the Church and to appreciate it very much. When I remember the small beginnings of the Church and how God has blessed her efforts and

how we have grown in these few short years that we have been an organization, it makes me love and appreciate the Church more than ever before. It makes me to know that God is setting His approval upon our work. I feel a security in the Church of God today that I have never felt before. May God continue to set His approval upon this official organ of the Church.

—W. E. Johnson
Overseer of Georgia



" . . . reports of our General Headquarters' activities."



Pratt

The *Evangel* feature I prefer is one that appears all too infrequently. Occasionally you run a brief report of our General Headquarters' activities; such news is not only interesting to the reader, but also is quite beneficial to the church at large.

Just recently I learned of the general overseer's making an official visit to South Africa, and again I heard that the assistant general overseer, Brother Paulk, had made an official trip to the West Indies. (Usually I read about such important work later from their pens.) I believe these missions make first class *Evangel* material.

The activities of our general officials and general Church boards should be given more attention in our Church publications. I think our Church government is second to none; therefore, for me to read about its progress and development comes easy. To be sure I am a bit partial to sound doctrinal discourses, but the feature that I enjoy most in the *Evangel* is a full coverage of general Church current events.

—William H. Pratt
Overseer of Western Canada



MOSES—

An Example

By

Paul L. Walker

TEXT: Hebrews 11:24-26: "By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward."

THE BIBLE presents to the world many outstanding men of meritorious deeds and faith who serve as examples to striving Christians everywhere, but many of these illustrious faithfuls have performed services for God which are quite far removed from our ability. We are not called upon to offer a literal sacrifice like Abel, to build a literal ark like Noah, to estrange ourselves from homeland to "search for a city" like Abraham, or to lead great armies into the foray of righteousness like Gideon, David, and countless others; no, ours is the same battle, but under entirely different circumstances with completely divergent methods. Moses, however, in this line of spiritual progenitors, stands as an outstanding

example to every twentieth-century Christian as He presents his example in *denial, decision, determination, and device*. This example strikes near to us, for we must follow it if we are to walk as consistent disciples of Christ.

AN EXAMPLE IN DENIAL—" . . . refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter."

Moses *denied himself of rank and greatness* as is vividly portrayed in the miraculous providential preservation and early life of this patriarch. After being discovered and adopted by Termuthis, the daughter of the Egyptian Pharaoh, and being raised as a son and favorite of the Egyptian court with the possibilities of being a successor to the throne, this man would denounce the position men of today are running an incessant race to gain. Rank, pleasure, power, greatness, dignity, honor, and authority—all of these were within his grasp, but Moses "refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter" and denied himself of rank and greatness.

Oh! the need for saints who will loose their gaze from the positions of pomp and honor which bring self-exaltation and self-aggrandizement at the ex-

pense of true faith, charity, spirituality, and growth in grace. Can we not turn our gaze from the positions of honor to be gained through the world, to look upon "whosoever doth not bear his cross, cannot be my disciple"? Can we not turn from following those who covet position and rank to see the sorrowing young ruler departing from the Master because he would not "deny himself and take up his cross"? Can we not shield ourselves from the desire in our hearts which thirsts for power and authority, to perceive the words, "He that would be greatest must be servant of all"? Can we not leave the Sanhedrins and learning of the Gamaliels to hear the words of the great apostle, ". . . I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Jesus Christ my Lord"? We must refuse Satan's offer of kingdoms, thrones, power, rank, and greatness, and deny ourselves if we are to follow the example of Moses which brings us into the light of Christ and His will.

Moses denied himself of pleasure. The god of this universe manifests itself in glaring neon, blasting juke boxes, and brazen billboards which entice gullible men to kneel at pleasure's shrine to pay homage, with starving children, broken homes, blighted characters, and illicit relationships as the results. Pleasure claims eighty per cent of our nation's earnings and empties our nation's churches with their "songs of Zion" to pack and jam the typical American road-houses and saloons with their tunes of "King Jazz." Moses, with intellectual, social, sensual, and all other types of pleasure offered in Egypt's land of artistry, resorts, and sensuous society at his fingertips, denounced the shadow for which all men strive, and left the melodies of Pharaoh's players of pleasure to hear the sound of bleating sheep among a despised and rejected race in the land of Midian. To follow Christ, the pleasures of a present godless, blaspheming, mocking world must be left behind for the pleasure and satisfaction of self-denial to pursue the Lord of glory and His cause.

Moses denied himself of riches which came to him in access to the treasures of Egypt. Note well the boundless wealth Moses might have enjoyed had he been content to remain a son of Pharaoh's daughter. Do not the remaining Egyptian pyramids, obelisks, temples, and statues witness to the wealth of the Pharaoh? Do not the ruins of Carnac, Luxor, and Denderah cry aloud as wonders of the world and value which might have been at the feet of Moses? Consider closely the decision to forsake and deny one's self of such treasures, and even the most devout will find it a difficult denial.

If a search were to be made to find that which holds the most power over men, the discovery of a "greenback" would tell the tale of woe—the power and love of money. Men covet it, lie for it, steal for it, kill for it, die for it, and sacrifice family, health, and life itself to gain another dollar or unearth a hidden treasure. Money makes the ignorant, wise; the debased, exalted; the profane, virtuous; the friendless, popular; the heel, a hero; and the powerless, powerful, in the eyes of earthly men and society. Under

its intoxication, crime, juvenile delinquency, and sordidness make headlines daily, and men constantly devise new and devious ways to obtain "filthy lucre without toil or sweat of brow."

All of this Moses denounced deliberately, not as an impetuous youth, but as a sane, sensible man who was of age, educated, and "learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians." This type of decision is demanded of all true believers, for "whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple." Herein we do not find a foolish abandonment of office by the statesman and property by the rich, but we do find a willingness to lay all on the altar of God as man would consecrate himself to Christ in an attitude of complete self-denial of all earthly possessions and goods.

Too often the religious styling of the age which depicts God as "the Man upstairs we can call on the phone" to bring help in time of distress and need or to supply riches, Cadillacs, and luxurious living, has infiltrated the heart of the sincere, blotting out the true element of discipleship—"if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

We, as striving Christians for God's kingdom, cannot and must not reduce God in His attributes of holiness, righteousness, truth, justice, mercy, and lovingkindness to a state of servitude for the whims of mortal wretches such as you and I. We, in our lowly estate, cannot ascend to the height of Him "who measured the waters, meted out the heavens in a span, comprehended the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in a scale and the hills in a balance." We, in our sinful estate, cannot scale the infinite expanse to Him who "stretched out the heavens as a curtain, calls the stars by name, and numbers the hair of every head."

We, through selfish motives, cannot use God as a resource only to bring security and enjoyment of a more abundant fleshly life, but only as we deny ourselves through consecration and dedication of our lives to Christ and His mediatorship, do we become recipients of His promises, heirs of His kingdom, fulfillers of His covenant, and hopefulls of His future provided for true believers. God provides for His own—His children by adoption—through an act of "God's free grace whereby He pardons us of all our sins and accepts us as righteous in His sight only through the righteousness of Christ imputed unto us and received by faith alone." Thus, to do God's bidding and fulfill His divine purpose for all creation and life, we must deny ourselves of earthly riches which beset us and seek diligently "Thy will be done, O Lord, and not my will."

TO CONCLUDE: If any man seek an example, let him pattern himself to follow Christ in the example of Moses who "refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward."



1. *Katherine Justinn, one of the transcribers, became so interested she frequently caught herself reading instead of typing.*
2. *Mrs. C. E. French (standing), and Mrs. John Eubanks, copy editors, shared many delightful passages aloud.*
3. *Irene Wales, primary editor, "Evangel" secretary since 1928, had pleasant memories.*
4. *Joshua Thomas, foreman of the mailing department, slipped into the printing department to read the proofs.*
5. *J. D. Hyberger, linotype operator since 1921, set much of the material when it appeared originally.*
6. *Flavius J. Lee, Jr., compositor, took time out to read while he was preparing the book for press.*
7. *Le-Voy Hathcock (left) and Dee Golden, compositors, wanted to work on the book, and did so.*
8. *Harry Harper, pressman, enjoyed proofs of the book even while it was being prepared.*

\$2.95

The Evangel Reader

Compiled and Edited

By CHARLES W. CONN

For almost half a century, the *Church of God Evangel* has been a leading voice of the Pentecostal movement. Through the years it has faithfully recorded the progress, the trials, the defeats, the ups and downs of the Church of God, and to a great degree, the entire Pentecostal fellowship.

Here in one compact volume is the spirit and the essence of all those years, available again to inspire and instruct the reader. This is the chronicle of a people and their faith, a heart-warming, account of their lives and their religion. It is not a staid and formal retelling of their beliefs and experiences, but it is their own declarations and their own lives, told in their own words. It is history in the rough, edited with direction and purpose, to reveal the subtle and almost imperceptible gradations of thought and objectives of a church in growth. This makes fascinating reading.

This is a book for the casual reader as well as the student. There is no toilsome reading in these pages, but it is ideal for the quiet, unhurried hour. It is for browsing, for inspiration, and for the building of faith. A careful reading of it, either from the beginning to the end or at random, will be an experience long to remember.

There are three sections to the book. The first is a representative selection of Pentecostal sermons, from 1910 to the present; the second is a section of typical Pentecostal experiences, expressions and records; concluded with a folio of photographs. Any reader, whether or not a member of the Church of God, or even the Pentecostal faith, will find here many hours of delightful reading.

THE WORLD WAS NOT WORTHY

—ARE WE?

(Continued from page 3)

Now this is no senile whining for the "good old days." Those days back there weren't so hot; I know, because I've just been back there. The day in which we live is our day, just as the day in which our forefathers lived was their day. My plea is that we meet the demands of our day just as they met the demands of theirs. Every day of every year demands holiness of those who profess His name. The need of holiness is just as great today as it was yesterday, as is the need of faith and conviction and devotion.

We need other things, too: education, for instance. But let us be very sure that our education is in addition to our faith and not a substitute for it. Organization is another; but it must be with the

power of the Spirit and not in the place of it. Prosperity, popularity, prestige and program are needed today, but in addition to, and not in the place of prayer, purpose and Pentecostal power.

Those who pursue the "good old days" are like kittens who chase their tails. They spend all their energy running around in circles, chasing what they can never capture. This is a good day in which to live; it is the day in which God wants you to live. Yet there are times when it is well to consider the days of old. Have we deviated in our course, are we missing the mark, are we true to that which begot us and gave us life?

Oh, may God grant that we may be worthy of those of whom the world was not worthy; of those who rejoiced that they were accounted worthy to suffer for His name.

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Write for information on Easter flannelgraph and flannel background.

Church of God Publishing House
Cleveland, Tennessee

revivals



Revival Is Blessing to Church

AUGUSTA, Ga.—God wondrously blessed in our recent revival with the Reverend C. H. Chambley. Many nights it seemed like a camp meeting. God used Brother Chambley in a great way in praying for the sick. The whole church was blessed by this revival. The Reverend W. E. Wright is our pastor here at Crawford Avenue.

—Lois H. Bohler, reporter

Many Blessed and Encouraged by Timely Messages of Overseer

SPOKANE, Wash.—The church here in the city of Spokane, Washington, recently enjoyed a revival with Brother Estel Moore, Overseer of Washington and Oregon, as the visiting minister. We cannot give a report in figures, but there were many blessed and encouraged by the timely messages of Brother Moore. We would also like to report that our church is making remarkable progress under the leadership of Brother Glen Clark. Brother Clark came to us as pastor from Livingston, Montana. We began services in August and we now have an organized Sunday School, Y. P. E., Junior Church, and Ladies' Willing Workers' Band. We desire that you pray for us here in the Pacific Northwest as the need is very great.

—Gene Grainger, reporter

Great Outpouring During December

BAXLEY, Ga.—The first Sunday in December, 1957, we began a revival with the Reverend Bennie Norris. It seemed to be planned of God to be a youth revival from the beginning. I have never seen the youth stirred as they were in this revival. Thirteen were saved, 9 sanctified, 7 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 2 united with the Church. On the last Sunday night of December, God gave us another outpouring. Six received the Holy Ghost. Then we had a watch-night service; 7 testified of being filled with the Holy Ghost and 3 more

united with the Church. God is certainly good to us and we do want to do our best for Him. Brother Norris is a prayer warrior and surely obeys the Spirit of God. Many times he spent the day in prayer and fasting. I am sure he is one of the best I have ever known among young people. He will do you good. Pray for us that this moving of God will continue with our people. —G. A. Lewis, pastor

Lady Evangelist Conducts Outstanding Revival

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla.—It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High," Psalm 92:1.

We feel that it is very timely to give thanks unto the Lord for a wonderful revival conducted by Sister Irene Hillhouse. It was evident that each sermon was truly inspired by the Holy Ghost, and our evangelist worked untiringly, not only behind the pulpit, but in singing and in praying earnestly with each seeker at the altar.

We are grateful that in this revival 10 were saved, 10 sanctified, 14 filled with the Holy Ghost, 9 baptized in water, and 15 added to the Church. In addition to these results, we feel that the consecration invitations made for all present proved a great blessing in reviving the entire church.

We would not want to close this report without including our thanks for our faithful pastor, Brother Paul S. Shoemaker. Both he and his wife have worked diligently while with us and we appreciate their fervent efforts.

We have had a new church organized in the southwest section, taking a number of our members. This church is pastored by the Reverend H. L. Goodwin, and at the present they are progressing nicely with their building.

We are happy to report that our church building is free of debt, and that there are now visions of a second story to our educational building. We are trusting that this will be realized in the very near future.

We thank God for the numerous ways in which He has smiled upon

us, and we determine that amid all of our aims and goals we strive to reach in Ft. Lauderdale, we will keep as our foremost vision, winning lost souls for Christ.

—Ruby Sarvis, reporter

Telegram From Wilmington, North Carolina

The greatest revival in the history of the 21st Street Church of God, Wilmington, North Carolina, began Sunday, January 5. First week, 19 saved, 3 sanctified, 3 received Holy Ghost, 10 added to Church. Evangelist James Poe Jackson, Hixson, Tennessee; Gilbert Pearson, pastor and reporter.

Church Blessed in Revival

SAINT PAULS, N. C.—We have just closed a great revival with the Reverend R. P. Fields as the evangelist. Eight were saved, 2 sanctified, and 1 added to the Church. The church was greatly blessed by the inspiring messages he brought each evening.

Any church would be fortunate to have Brother Fields in a revival. Our pastor is Rev. J. S. Leonard.

—Mary Leonard, reporter



We still have a few 1957 *Vindaguas* available at a close-out price of \$4.00. Be sure to get yours now before they are all gone.

You can now place your order for the 1958 *Vindagua* which will be going to press in March. You can get this one for \$5.00 but your order must be in by March 15.

Send your order to:

J. C. Hollie
Business Manager, *Vindagua*
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reports

Church Makes Great Improvements

CHASE CITY, Va.—We have installed sheetrock and flooring in our Sunday School department which now accommodates 6 classrooms of students. We purchased set-in screens for the chapel of the church, purchased maroon Celanese material and made curtains for the stage, bought approximately \$500 worth of furniture for the parsonage, 3 stoves for classrooms in Sunday School, painted the living room and kitchen in a rented five-room parsonage. In the immediate future, we plan to paint the chapel interior and seats and sand and shellac the floors.

The church is doing well both materially and spiritually. During the period from September 1956, to December 1957, we have received 7 new members into the Church. There have been a number of experiences in the Lord. We are thanking God for the accomplishments of our church at Chase City.

—David Scearce, pastor

Dakota Bible and Prayer Conference

Praise, prayer, music and singing ascended to our heavenly Father as the Dakota Bible and Prayer Conference convened at the Mobridge Church, November 18, 19. The Reverend W. P. Stallings, our beloved overseer, moderated the conference with words of grace and a hand of humility. His pertinent remarks concerning the work of the Church of God, past and future, in the Dakotas, were well-received. The Reverend L. O. Vaught, our fine youth director, spoke to us about the Sunday School and Youth work in an inspiring promotional talk.

Tuesday morning, the Reverend William H. Pratt, Overseer of Western Canada, preached a great message from Hebrews on "The New Covenant." Brother Pratt, having pastored our Minot Church for two years, is not a stranger in the Dakotas. We were most happy to have him with us through the con-

ference. The Reverend J. E. DeVore, preached on Tuesday afternoon from the text "We See Jesus." He declared that it was his desire that we see Christ in His saving, cleansing, baptizing, healing, demon-dispelling, delivering, keeping power.

The Reverend James A. Cross, Assistant General Overseer, delivered three soul-stirring messages during the conference. Monday evening he spoke to us on the subject "The Church on Her Knees." Tuesday morning he spoke about the need for revival and evangelism. He pointed out that there are sixty-seven million unchurched people in the United States. He challenged us to go after these perishing souls with a blazing compassion and a constraining love. His closing message seemed to be the greatest of all as he spoke from the text "Break Up Your Fellow Ground." This man of God preached with a special anointing throughout the conference and his powerful messages will not be soon forgotten.

This conference was a Pentecostal refreshing from the heavenly throne. Our hearts were uplifted by the high tide of spiritual power that permeated the services. There was shouting in the Spirit. There were demonstrations of the Holy Ghost. We heard speaking in tongues as the Spirit gave utterance. We heard people testify to the healing power of Christ. We heard these words at the close: "It was good to have been here." "The Lord has been in this place." "This is the greatest prayer conference I have ever attended." "How can they keep getting better and better?" "I am going to work harder than ever to win souls."

This prayer conference was well-attended. On the closing night the building was filled to capacity. All who attended, every minister, member, and friend, cooperated with open hearts to make the conference a success. The singers, musicians and those in charge of the song services and the devotions were at their best. The fine host pastor, the Reverend Wallace Rampy, and his good people provided a most delicious dinner and supper for all of

us. May God pour out His richest blessings upon these gracious people for their kindness to us.

As I look at the conference in retrospect I believe with all my heart that the spiritual blessings of that wonderful meeting at Mobridge will produce practical, profitable, worth-while results in the Church of God here in the Dakotas.

—J. E. DeVore, reporter

Prayer

Requests



Pray for me to be healed of headaches and a nervous condition.

Mrs. V. W. Crawford
La Fayette, Indiana

Pray for my husband, children and grandchildren, and for me to be healed.

Mrs. Archie Middleton
Crab Orchard, Kentucky

Pray for my husband to be saved.

Louise Gilley
Bradenton, Florida

Please pray for Mr. Philip Morgan to be healed; pray for Mrs. Bright and Mrs. Beulah Davis, pray for my brother, John Nelson, who has heart trouble and that he will receive the Holy Ghost. Pray that his family will be saved.

Mrs. Effie Wattington
Bastrop, Louisiana

Pray that my son will find work.
A sister in Christ
Calhoun, Georgia

Pray for me to be healed. I've almost had a nervous breakdown.

Mrs. Jesse Higginbotham
Montgomery, Alabama

Pray for several special requests and that I will be healed.

Mrs. E. H. Thompson
Bon Air, Alabama

Pray for my sister, my brother to be saved and healed, and for several other requests, also that I will be healed.

Maude Martin
Altoona, Alabama



in memoriam

DUNCAN

The death angel visited the Richmond County Hospital, Augusta, Georgia, on January 20, 1958, at 6 p.m. and took a jewel to heaven. This was Sister Fannie Duncan, 78, a faithful member and minister of the Church for some 46 years. She was ill for several months before she passed away and much of the time she didn't know any one; but one thing for sure, she will know each of us in heaven. Her funeral was conducted at the Crawford Avenue Church by our former pastor, Paul T. Stover, assisted by our present pastor, W. E. Wright. —Lois H. Bohler, reporter

SPARKS

Sister Issiabella Sparks, the wife of Brother G. B. Sparks, suddenly and unexpectedly slipped away from our company here in Johnson City, Tennessee, to join the many who await those of us who still remain here on the earth to carry on the work of the great commission. Sister Sparks had been a faithful and loyal member of the Church of God for over 20 years. The Church of God will miss her, but our loss is her gain. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and a helpful neighbor in the community. She "is not dead, but sleepeth" (Matthew 9:24).

—A. J. Duncan, pastor

SHIRES

Mrs. Bertie Alma (McCoin), Shires, wife of the Reverend W. L. Shires, now pastoring the Church of God in Borger, Texas, departed this life to be with Jesus, January 3, 1958. She was 53 years, 4 months and 3 days old. Sister Shires entered the North Plains Hospital in Borger on September 27 after a heart attack. The doctor gave her no hopes of recovery unless the Lord intervened. The Lord raised her up and she came home after 51 days to stay with us for 43 days. She then had another heart attack which caused her death.

Sister Shires was converted, sanctified, filled with the Holy Ghost and united with the Church of God in Paris, Texas, in 1921.

She was 17 years old at this time. She was a member of the Church for 37 years and remained faithful unto death.

Sister Shires and her husband have been engaged in the pastoral work of the Church of God in Texas for over 22 years. She leaves her husband, 1 son, 2 daughters and 2 grandchildren.

Her funeral was conducted in Borger, Texas, by the Reverend L. A. Baker, assisted by the Reverend E. L. Murphy. Another service in Fort Worth, Texas, was conducted by the Reverend J. T. Gilliam, assisted by the Reverend Joe Bailey and the Reverend J. H. Walker. She was laid to rest in the Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Park in Fort Worth, Texas. —W. L. Shires, reporter

SHIPLEY

Sister Luella Shipley, known to her many intimate friends as Grandma Shipley, passed from this life on November 29, 1957. She was 83 years old.

Sister Shipley had been a member of the Church of God in Borger, Texas, since October 7, 1934.

She had been bedfast for over 3 years, but she never complained about her afflictions; she always exemplified a victorious life in Christ.

The world is surely a better place because of her having passed this way. —L. D. Ringo, clerk

SPROULE

Henry Lee Sproule passed away January 26, 1958, at the age of 80. He was a member of the Green Street Church of God in Williamsburg, Kentucky.

He had been a member for about 4 years and most of that time was unable to attend church. He leaves 1 son, Jesse of Emlyn, with whom he made his home, 1 brother, 2 sisters, 4 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren to mourn his passing.

His funeral was conducted at the Green Street Church of God by his pastor, the Reverend David Shepherd, and the Reverend Starling Smith.

—Mrs. David Shepherd, reporter

EDDINGS

On January 10, 1957, Brother Meddie Eddings, of the Ft. Meade, Florida, Church, departed this life at the age of 74. Brother Eddings had been a member of the Church for many years and is certainly missed by all. He is survived by his wife, 1 son, 2 daughters, and 4 grandchildren, one of whom, Russell Brinson, is pastor of our Winter Garden Church.

Assisting the pastor in the funeral were three former Ft. Meade pastors, Doyle L. Franklin, C. D. Harris, and Don Staten.

—E. LaVoy Newton, pastor

STEPHENS

Mrs. Effie Alderman Stephens, 68, member of the Ft. Meade, Florida, Church of God for 33 years, died August 9, 1957, at the hospital in Bartow, Florida.

She is survived by her husband, W. D. Stephens, who is still an active member in the local church, even at his advanced age; 2 daughters and 2 sons of Ft. Meade, and a third son of Hollywood, Florida.

Since Sister Stephens' departure, one of her daughters has become a member of the Ft. Meade Church.

Sister Stephens is missed by her family, the church and her many friends here in Ft. Meade where she has lived 44 years of her 49 years of married life.

—E. LaVoy Newton, pastor

THOMAS

Mary Jane Thomas was born June 9, 1878, and passed away October 22, 1957, being 79 years, 4 months and 13 days old. She was the daughter of Francis and Mary Ann Ridner Thomas who are deceased. She willed approximately \$2,300 to the Church of God on Fifth and Green Street to which she had belonged for about 40 years. She taught school in her teen-age years, and was pianist for the church from her youth until she became ill. She taught a Bible class in Sunday School for more than 30 years. She became a member of the Church of God in early life and lived a faithful Christian all her years. Her funeral was conducted at the Church of God, Fifth and Green Street, Williamsburg, Kentucky, by her pastor, David Shepherd, and the former pastor, Starling Smith. —Reporter

We have to live but one day at a time, but we are living for eternity in that one day. —Anonymous.



testimonies

Young Man Receives Blessing From Evangel

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—I know most of you have heard members of your local congregation say that the Church of God is streamlining as the train went from coal and steam to diesel and electricity for power. The word *streamlining* as they mean it means falling away from the old landmark. Our elders blazed the trail of holiness for the Church of God. I believe that we should thank God and appreciate what they have done enough to keep to the old landmark.

The Lord gave this message to me when I read the announcement in the *Evangel*, October 28, 1957, about the forum on the most serious problem faced by today's Christian youth. I believe that Christian young people face one of their most serious problems when they go to schools or colleges that are not Christian. Many students make light of the way they dress and ridicule them because they don't talk in a vulgar, filthy manner as some of the students do. I know from experience. I was ridiculed, fought, persecuted, and slandered while I was going to school, but I prayed for the Lord to give me strength to walk that straight and narrow path that leads to life eternal. Praise the Lord.

I am the only member of the Church of God in my entire family. I am not even allowed to attend the Church of God, which is six miles from my house. My mother has me to go to church with my grandmother. This church is cold and indifferent, so I get my sermons from the *Evangel*s which I save to read again and again. God bless all who read this; please pray that this stumbling block will be removed so that I can attend the church of my choice.

—Henry Morgan

Our Missionaries Labor Faithfully As They Await Our Lord's Return

WUERTTEMBERG, U.S. ZONE, Germany—Heresies and perverted teachings seem to be covering the

earth. These days that are ushering in the coming of the Lord are filled with anxiety. Cults and sects seem to flourish and our church here in Germany is preyed upon by them all. Our hearts are daily saddened by those who have seemed so steadfast and yet have fallen prey to some new doctrine or teaching.

Many grow weary of waiting for His return, but we must labor faithfully and not join those who say, "Our Lord delayeth His coming." One day our faith and labor will be honored. His return is real to us!

We recently visited a dear old lady who is a member of our church. As we sat in her stiff little parlor, she took a small picture in her hand. A smile crossed her face as she said, "This is my son." Soon she was telling us about him. She told of his being a soldier and of his being reported missing. Later someone brought her word from him which gave her hope. She said to us, "I keep his shoes shined and his clothes in readiness. Those things I'll never give away for I believe he will return some day, and I want him to find his clothes in readiness when he comes." Her faith is so great that we only encouraged her to keep expecting his return.

Sometime later we were holding a revival in North Germany. Two fine young boys and their mother invited us to Sunday dinner. After we were seated and were looking around us, she pointed to a portrait of a handsome young man and said with great pride, "That is my husband. Oh, he preached with fire and enthusiasm as you do, Brother Lauster. I just pray that one of these boys will take up where he left off. He is missing since the war, but the last words he said to me are living in me yet. I'll never forget the day I took these two boys, who were very small then, and went to visit him for the last time. As we said goodbye, he hugged us all and told me to be faithful to God and bring the boys up to serve God, and that someday he'd return. The years are many now which have come and gone, but I keep looking for him. You know the Russians have many of our men yet, and surely someday they

will come back and my husband will be among them." Tears were streaming down her face by that time, but the light of faith and hope was shining through the tears.

Oh! If our Lord's return would only be so real to us. Let us wait and look for Him as faithfully as these precious women wait for their missing loved ones. It is questionable if they are alive and will ever return, but we know that our Lord lives and one day will return.

May He find all things in readiness in our lives when He returns.

—The Lausters
Missionaries to Germany

Husband Is Saved After 20 Years in Prayer

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—I do want to praise God for old-time salvation. I am so glad that I am saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and intend to make heaven my home. I am glad for the dear Church of God and its teachings. I love holiness and it just suits me. If you have it in its fullness it will make you talk right, walk right, dress right, treat your fellowman right.

I praise God for saving my husband; I had prayed for him about 20 years. He was bound by the drink habit; the devil would often tell me that he never would be saved, but he is a liar and the father of liars. We have such a good God, bless His holy name.

I earnestly praise God for our good pastor and his wife, Brother and Sister S. P. Chesser. They are so precious to me. I believe it was their showing love toward my companion that helped to bring him to the Lord. In April of 1955 the Lord gloriously saved him and he has never taken another drink or smoked another cigarette. Oh, how I do praise God for His goodness! If He permits me to live to see another year, I want to do more for Him. It seems I have been so little, as nothing in His sight. Even though I can't do so much as others can, I can live for God and meet Him in heaven.

Please pray for me that I can do God's will and make it through the pearly gates of heaven. I do want to see heaven and meet my many loved ones. Most of all, I want to meet Jesus face to face. Won't that be wonderful?

—Mrs. Nellie Snowden

Every day remember that you have a God to glorify, a Saviour to imitate, a soul to save, your body to mortify, virtue to acquire, heaven to seek, eternity to meditate upon, temptations to resist, the world to guard against, and perhaps death to meet.—Anonymous.



family devotions

MRS. F. W. GOFF, Mt. Vernon, Illinois

Memory Verse: "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Micah 6:8.

Monday, March 3

Scripture, Isaiah 53

This is the season of Lent. The word *Lent* comes from an old Anglo-Saxon word *leeter* meaning "spring." Since the fourth century Lent has been used as a period of soul refreshment. Lent lasts forty days, the forty days before Easter. This is observed in memory of the forty-day fast of Christ in the desert. Let us during this season reconsecrate our lives to Christ. Think upon the great price of our redemption and yield unreservedly to Him who is worthy of complete obedience.

Quicken our minds, O God, as we think of Calvary. Help us to see the love that was manifested there and to respond to that great love.

Tuesday, March 4

Scripture, Job 33

"Lo, all these things worketh God oftentimes with man, to bring back his soul from the pit, to be enlightened with the light of the living," Job 33:28, 30. It is well for us to remember that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord. We now see through a glass darkly and those things we count trials, oftentimes are blessings in disguise. Sometimes temporal blessings are denied so that the spiritual life may be enriched. Adverse circumstances drive us to our knees and we draw strength untold. When we see no way out, in desperation we can look up and find a quality of peace and serenity that passes all understanding.

Help us, O. God, to lean not to our own understanding, but in all our ways acknowledge Thee and seek Thy guidance.

Wednesday, March 5

Scripture, Joshua 1:1-9

"The entrance of thy word giveth light," Psalm 119:130. The Bible is given to show us the way to heav-

en. Begin each day with a portion of it. Ponder its precious promises through the day. It is a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path. General Douglas MacArthur once told a Bible Society visitor, "Never a night goes by, be I ever so tired, but I read the Word of God before I go to bed."

Help us, O God, to hide Thy Word in our hearts, to walk in its precepts and keep its laws.

Thursday, March 6

Scripture, Exodus 14:21-31

Sometimes in the Christian race we are faced with the impossible. In our own strength we are helpless. God allows such trials so that in our weakness we may trust wholly in Him. Moses was faced with the Red Sea. There was no way out, but Moses had faith in the great "I Am" and deliverance came. It is when we trust implicitly in our heavenly Father, even through perplexing times, that our lives are enriched. Remember the words of Jeremiah, "Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee," Jeremiah 32:17.

Help us to lean heavily on Thee, dear God.

Friday, March 7

Scripture, Psalm 19

How fortunate they are who live close to nature. David was such a man. The heavens spoke to David of the glory of God and the earth of His handiwork. All around us are revelations of His power. The Apostle Paul in preaching to those that knew not the true God said, "Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness," Acts 14:17. How much more should

we, who are His children see His handiwork all around us.

Make us conscious of Thy presence and of Thy blessing even in nature itself.

Saturday, March 8

Scripture, Psalm 149

The story is told of a Hindu who asked a native Christian, "What medicine do you put on your face to make it shine so?" "I don't put anything on it," answered the Christian. "Yes, you do," the other persisted. "All you Christians do; I've seen it wherever I have met Christians." The native Christian thought a moment, then smilingly said, "Yes, I will tell you the medicine that makes our faces shine; it is happiness of heart." Let the beauty of Christ radiate from your life. Let your countenance bespeak of the joy that dwells within.

Help us, heavenly Father, to spread sunshine as we pass through this world.



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- ✓ PRAYING CHRISTIAN
- ✓ WITNESSING CHRISTIAN

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